

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)	Ranko, et al.	Examiner:	Unassigned
Serial No.:	Unassigned	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
Confirmation No.:	Unassigned	Docket:	442-134 PCT/US
Filed:	Herewith	Int'l Filing Date:	April 27, 2001
Int'l Application No.:	PCT/EP01/04776		
For:	CONNECTING DEVICE FOR FLUIDS	Dated:	December 19, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

*I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as Express Mail
No.: EL470331345US, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231*

on December 19, 2001

Signature: _____

Jaime Peterson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

UNITED STATES PATENTS

<u>PATENTEE</u>	<u>PATENT NO.</u>	<u>ISSUE DATE</u>
Yamazaki	4,533,020	August 6, 1985
Dunn et al.	5,372,392	December 13, 1994
Wolfe, Sr.	5,383,689	January 24, 1995
Stoll, et al.	6,039,358	March 21, 2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>PUBLICATION NO.</u>	<u>PUBLICATION DATE</u>
Germany	DE 94 09 753.4	October 27, 1994
Germany	DE 197 07 630.0	June 18, 1998
EPO	EP 0707696 B1	April 24, 1996
WIPO	WO 95/02149	January 19, 1995

NON-PATENT PUBLICATIONS


1. Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 7, No. 261, Pub. No. 58142084, August 23, 1983.

The above-referenced documents are listed on PTO Form 1449. We have enclosed the cited documents to facilitate reference to them.

In addition, each of the above-listed references was cited in the corresponding International and German applications. Accordingly, copies of the International and German Search Reports showing the degree of relevancy of each reference is also enclosed.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


Steven T. Zuschlag
Registration No.: 43,309
Attorney for Applicants

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP
6900 Jericho Turnpike
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 822-3550
STZ:jp

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 442-134 PCT/US	SERIAL NO. Unassigned
	APPLICANTS Ranko, et al.	CONFIRMATION NO. Unassigned
	FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,533,020	08/06/85	Yamazaki			
		5,372,392	12/13/94	Dunn et al.			
		5,383,689	01/24/95	Wolfe, Sr.			
		6,039,358	03/21/00	Stoll, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		DE 9409753.4	10/27/94	Germany				
		DE 19707630.0	06/18/98	Germany				
		EP 0707696 B1	04/24/96	EPO				
		WO 95/02149	01/19/95	WIPO				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

			Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 7, No. 261, Pub. No. 58142084, August 23, 1983.

146466_1

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.